

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1875.

THE JOURNAL.

According to previous announcement the JOURNAL was sold yesterday. By this sale the paper is relieved of its pecuniary embarrassments, and is again on a solid financial foundation. At present there will be no change in its editorial management, and in no event will there be any departure in its political bearing and position. Always true, always bold, uncompromising in its political opinions, it will give forth, at no time and under no circumstances, any uncertain sound.

Having grown up with the older generation of our citizens, identified with their social and material progress, the best efforts of the JOURNAL will always be freely and faithfully given to enhance the welfare and prosperity of Wilmington. At home a recognized and an honored institution of the city, abroad an index of its commercial and political status, its conductors have felt a just pride in its good name and in its growing influence. Under new and more favorable auspices these will be maintained and increased.

Whatever personal changes in the future may be made, the same old care of, and devotion to, the best interests of this city and this section and this State, which for a quarter of a century have been its leading features, will ever characterize the paper.

Its business department will be placed under a gentleman of recognized competency and experience; its publishing department will be enlarged and improved, and nothing will be left undone to render the JOURNAL a welcome visitor in every household. I will only ask to be judged by and be received on its merits.

THE JOURNAL.

Our paper very wisely began to direct its look west to an early and efficient reorganization of the Democratic party for the great Nations and States of the West next year. A work so important cannot be commenced too soon, nor pushed too vigorously. We have a strong and very enemy to encounter, and one who will contest every foot of ground in fight in which defeat deprives them of the "slush pot" upon which they have for nearly a score of years been drawing fat.

But in our organization we must "make haste slowly." We must be sure we make no mistake in the incapacity of the campaign which will inflict certain disaster when the crisis arrives. We must base our organization upon principle and not upon expediency, for the truest and best trusted soldiers in the ranks will not bear allegiance to banners with new and strange devices, and we cannot hope to succeed with mere bushwhackers in the van guard. We must depend upon our tried leaders and we must give battle upon old and well founded principles.

We are led to these thoughts at this time in our endorsement of the Fayetteville *Gazette* in its article published elsewhere in reply to our contemporary *The Morning Star*. There is on the part of some of our friends too much restlessness to seek new parties and form new combinations. The great National Democratic party has just organized the National House of Representatives, and a large majority of the States of the Union are under Democratic control. The Republican party has not recovered from its late defeats, and internal dissensions, and of the worst type, are visible in its ranks. A struggle over a leader is augmenting into a scuffle, and it may be, a fatal disturbance. So now is the most inopportune time since the war for the Conservative people of the country to think of new party combinations. We must cling more closely to the present organization.

In our own State the election of 1876 is probably the most important in its history. First in magnitude is the adoption of the Constitutional amendments. With the people of the large, no, ro country their adoption is most vital. Under the present Constitution it may be pleasant for us to know that a Democrat fills the gubernatorial chair, but he cannot relieve us from the evils of the worst local government a people were ever cursed with. He might not arm a regiment of negroes and arm only one white company, and that, too, under protest, but he could not make our County Commissioners and Assessors and Trustees and Aldermen more able, more economical, or more honest, nor could he recruit our burdened people. Our only hope in the alteration of the fundamental law.

Then we have a Governor and other State officers, a Legislature, upon whom rests the selection of a United States Senator, and, too, important county officers to be elected.

We cannot, therefore, begin too soon, nor can we afford to make any mistake. We must not forsake our landmarks. We befriend those who believe with our contemporary that we must form new combinations, to give up such feelings, for certain defeat will be the result. Under trusted leaders, and following the time-honored banner victory is within our reach. Let us unite and secure it.

There are indications that the old war of etiquette that has been waged for centuries will break out again in Washington with redoubled fury. It seems to be a fact that the wife of the senator's better half ranked by the wife of a Cabinet minister or a justice of the Supreme Court? Who ought to call first? Who ought to be first invited to the state dinners of the White House? These were grave questions, men and brothers, and branching out involve many more of the same sort, over which our fussy old tabbies have been annually very much excited. They will probably never be settled, but will serve to keep snobs in a quiver during the winter.

THE NEXT CONVENTION.

From the *Dayton Journal*.
There were as many widows as

widowers in Michigan—52,674 to 15,636.

The New York Board of Trade will memorialize Congress in regard to the Cattlemen's appropriation.

Concealed in the skirts of a woman arrested at St. Albans last week were found 400 yards of black silk.

Prince Bismarck has been called upon by Parliament to use his best endeavor to restore the London market to German control.

There are about 65,250 professional beggars in Paris, of whom 25,450 are women, 14,500 men, 13,000 girls and 12,310 boys.

Worms, the man milliner, has failed, and the grief-stricken fashionables of Paris are killing themselves with absurd "straight."

The Canadian Government is taking steps to prevent the spread of the foot and mouth disease which has broken out among the cattle of Middlesex county, Ontario.

St. Paul, Minn., has population of 33,237, and Minneapolis, 32,729. The two cities being only four miles apart, there is no lack of foot looking to their consolidation.

The Hon. M. C. Kerr, Speaker of the House, was seconded, and acknowledged the compliment in a brief speech. Among others seconded was Mr. Randell of Pennsylvania, who responded in a speech of some length.

Alexander Stephens, of Georgia, in a letter to Senator Gordon, states that ill health will probably detain him this winter at his home. He thinks it would be extremely unwise for the Democrats to take any steps to upset any of the reconstruction acts passed by the Republicans.

One of the fish commissioners of Virginia will visit Raleigh very soon to encourage North Carolina in stocking their streams with fish. To that end the appointment of a State commission will be asked so that the two commissions may operate together in the course of the investigation.

We do not know of any party to the H. C. Gray's case, to be figuring it as a variable. "Gordon L. Gray," while his dignified rival is still acting in the "School for the Dead."

The Boston Congregationalist, also, has been shocked by the long-drawn-out obsequies of Henry Wilson.

"When," it asks, "shall we have such a reform of our present barbarous funeral customs as will protect the bodies of the dead from the indignities of public honors and grant them a speedy, quiet and reposeful passage from the chamber of death to the grave?"

According to a London *Times* correspondent an American circus proprietor, with great difficulty, obtained from the German authorities leave to take some German horses with him into France, and then only on giving bond to return them in three years, and not to permit their use in France meanwhile for breeding purposes.

Circus property is taxed in California, and this was brought about by the heathen. The Chinese availed themselves of the exemption of church property to evade taxation on their houses, which are very numerous and mainly merely opium-smokers' resorts; and to prevent it was necessary to make general and sweeping laws.

At the instance of Babcock, but let Joyce be sent to the penitentiary with the utmost unconcern. When an indictment became imminent against Babcock, he assisted the latter to parry the blow by calling a Military Court to try the case, and the President, to take cognizance of any improper language, and his indifference had him open to the terrible suspicion that he determined to interfere with the strength of his prerogative—or what he assumes to be his prerogative—between an offender and the justice of his country if that offender should be tried to the interior of the "School for the Dead."

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